

17 March 2009

## **HSBC GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT LAUNCHES INVESTMENT GRADE BOND FUND**

HSBC Global Asset Management has launched the HSBC Investment Grade Bond Fund 2013 for investors to capture potentially stable returns amid an uncertain market outlook.

The HSBC Investment Grade Bond Fund 2013 will invest in a globally diversified portfolio of around 30 to 40 US dollar-denominated investment grade bonds. The Fund also aims to deliver coupons on a semi-annual basis throughout its four-year investment tenure.

Bonnie Lam, Director and Head of Wholesale Business, HSBC Global Asset Management in Hong Kong, said: “Under global economic uncertainty, investors are seeking opportunities in quality and less risky asset classes managed in a transparent manner. The HSBC Investment Grade Bond Fund 2013, an actively managed bond fund that aims to deliver potentially stable returns while offering a higher level of diversification than a single bond, can address investors’ needs. To provide investors with a clear understanding of what they are investing in, the entire portfolio holdings of the Fund will be disclosed regularly.”

The Fund will be managed by the award-winning fixed income team in Asia-Pacific led by Cecilia Chan, Director and Head of Fixed Income at Halbis, the active fundamental investment specialist of HSBC Global Asset Management. The team, which manages over US\$14 billion of fixed income assets as at the end of December 2008, has an average of over 13 years of industry experience and a track record of consistent performance.

Cecilia Chan, Director and Head of Fixed Income at Halbis in Asia-Pacific, said: “Since the onset of the global credit crisis, financial assets have been tremendously re-priced. The significant widening of credit spreads or yield premiums to historical levels indicates the attractive valuations of selected investment grade bonds in the global market, and offers appealing investment opportunities to investors taking a buy and hold approach.

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“Backed by our local and global credit research capabilities, we aim to offer a diversified, high quality credit portfolio and employ on-going risk management strategies to manage the credit risk exposure of the portfolio.” Ms Chan added.

The initial public offering of the HSBC Investment Grade Bond Fund 2013 is available from 16 to 30 March 2009 through HSBC and Hang Seng Bank branches. The minimum investment amount is US\$1,000.

### Credentials of Halbis’s fixed income team in recent years<sup>1</sup>:

HSBC Asian Bond Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lipper Fund Awards 2009 – Best Fund over Five Years, Bond Asia Pacific</li><li>• Lipper Fund Awards 2008 – Best Fund over Three Years, Bond Asia Pacific</li><li>• AsianInvestor Achievement Awards 2008 – Three-year risk-adjusted performance</li></ul>
Halbis Capital Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Asia Asset Management Best of the Best Awards 2008 – Asian Bond House</li></ul>
HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Emerging Markets Bond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Morningstar Fund Awards 2008 (Hong Kong) – Emerging Markets Bond</li></ul>

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### **Notes to editors:**

#### **Footnotes**

1. Lipper Fund Awards 2009 and Morningstar Fund Awards 2008 (Hong Kong): Based on performance as at 31 December, 2008.  
Asia Asset Management Best of the Best Awards 2008: Based on performance as at 30 November 2008.  
AsianInvestor Achievement Awards 2008 and Lipper Fund Awards 2008: Based on performance as at 31 December 2007.

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### **HSBC Global Asset Management**

HSBC Global Asset Management comprises four specialist investment businesses: Halbis, Sinopia, Multimanager and Liquidity. HSBC Global Asset Management acts as the global representative of its specialist investment businesses and manages assets totalling US\$372 billion at the end of December 2008. As one of the world's leading emerging markets asset management businesses, through its network of offices in over 20 countries around the world, HSBC Global Asset Management has strong relationships with corporates, institutions and financial intermediaries of all sizes and types.

### **Halbis**

Halbis is an active investment manager focused on delivering sustainable value-added performance in selected areas of the global market. It specialises only in areas where it is or will be highly competitive, namely European equities, value-added fixed income, Asian and Emerging Markets equities, and some alternative strategies. Halbis manages assets of US\$125 billion as at the end of December 2008.

### **The HSBC Group**

The above companies are members of the HSBC Group which, with over 9,500 offices in 86 countries and territories and assets of US\$2,527 billion at 31 December 2008, is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

### **Disclaimer**

Investment involves risk and past performance is not indicative of future performance. Please refer to the offering document for further details including the risk factors. This document has not been reviewed by SFC and is prepared for general information purposes only. All views expressed cannot be construed as an offer or recommendation by HSBC Global Asset Management (Hong Kong) Limited (AMHK). AMHK and the HSBC Group shall not be held liable for damages arising out of any person's reliance upon this information. Any person considering an investment should seek independent advice on the suitability or otherwise of the particular investment.

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